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# Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FEA-01 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01

OES-05 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 AECE-00 ACDA-10 IO-10

SAJ-01 CAB-05 DOTE-00 FAA-00 EUR-12 NEA-10 XMB-04

OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /155 W
---------- 051535
O P 131045Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6733
INFO AMEMASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLPEKING
:CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 16299

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT JA PFOR MARR
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: TOKYO 16040 AND 15811

SUMMARY: IN HIS FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE SINCE TAKING OFFICE,
PRIME MINISTER MIKI SAID DECEMBER 12 THAT THERE WILL
BE NO CHANGE IN JAPAN'S BASIC FOREIGN POLICY. DURING
THE HOUR-LONG MEETING WHICH WAS DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY
TO INTERNAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, HE SAID
HE WOULD PURSUE "HONEST AND SINCERE" POLICIES TO REGAIN
THE PEOPLE'S TRUST, GIVE TOP PRIORITY TO STOPPING
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INFLATION AND CORRECTING SOCIAL INJUSTICE, AND PROMOTE

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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO SOLVE URGENT PROBLEMS
SUCH AS ENERGY, RESOURCES, AND INFLATION. LOCAL
PRESS REACTION TO HIS PERFORMANCE WAS GENERALLY
NEGATIVE. HIS REMARKS ON SPECIFIC SUBJECTS FOLLOW.
ENS DUMMARY.

1. FOREIGN RELATIONS

A. UNITED STATES - MIKI SAID THAT THERE WILL BE
NO CHANGE IN JAPAN'S VIEW THAT "MAINTENANCE OF JAPAN-
US FRIENDSHIP IS THE AXIS (SHIJIKU) OF JAPAN'S FOREIGN
POLICY." HE SAID HE WILL FAITHFULLY CARRY OUT THE
SPIRIT OF THE FORD-TANAKA COMMUNIQUE OF NOVEMBER 20,
1974.

B. NUCLEAR WEAPONS - ASKED THAT HE INTENDED TO DO
TO RESOLVE JAPANESE SUSPICIOUS REGARDING THE PRESENCE
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOARD US WARSHIPS VISITING JAPAN,
MIKI SAID THAT THE ISSUE IMPINGED ON THE QUESTION OF
TRUST BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS, THE BASIS OF THE SECURITY
TREATY.NOTING THAT THE THE NUCLEAR ISSUE
WOULD COME UP IN THE COMING DIET, HE SAID HE HAS
TASKED THE FONOFF TO STUDY THE MATTER TO DEVISE A
WAY TO ERASE THE SUSPICIOUS OF THE PEOPLE. ASKED TO
COMMENT ON SECDEF'S REMARKS THAT US MAY BE WILLING TO
REVEAL  THE LOCATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN FOREIGN
COUNTRIES (WITH HOST GOVT CONSENT), MIKI SAID THAT THE
GOJ HAS NOT HAD ANY FORMAL WORD FROM THE USG REGARDING
ANY CHANGE IN ITS BASIC "NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY"
POLICY LINE. IN ANY EVENT, HE SAID, HE WOULD LIKE TO
CLARIFYTHE NUCLEAR ISSUE PRIOR TO THE EXTRAORDINARY
DIET SESSION. AS TO THE THREE NON-NUCLEAR PRINCIPLES,
MIKI SAID HE WOULD BE SECOND TO NONE IN FIGHTING FOR
THEIR MAINTENANCE.

C. NPT - ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD ASK THE DIET IN THE
COMING SESSION TO RATIFY THE NPT IN VIEW OF OPPOSITION
WITHIN THE LDP, MIKI SAID THAT ONE OF JAPAN'S WORRIES
WAS THAT THE TRETY WOULD WORK TO ITS DISADVANTAGE
IN THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. THROUGH THE
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SIGNING OF A SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT BETWEEN IAEA AND,
FOR EXAMPLE,EURATOM, SUCH WORRIES CAN BE ALLE-
VIATED. MIKI SAID HE WOULD THEN SEEK THE CONSENSUS
REPEAT CONSENSUS OF THE LDP.

D. CHINA - MIKI SAID HE WOULD FAITHFULLY OBSERVE
THE SPRIT OF THE 1972 JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH CHINA AND
PROMOTE THE SIGNING OF THE PEACETREATY. RE

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RESTORATION OF TIES WITH TAIWAN, HE SAID THAT JAPAN'S BASIC POLICY HAS BEEN SET IN THE 1972 JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH CHINA. SINCE RELATION WITH TAIWAN ARE BASED ON PRACTICAL AGREEMENTS HANDLED BY PRIVATE FIRMS, HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO CONCLUDE FURTHER TIES (E.G. CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT) WITH TAIWAN.

E. USSR - MIKI MERELY SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE EFFORTS TO CONCLUDE A PEACE TREATY, WHILE NOTING THE OUTSTANDING NORTHERN TERRITORIES ISSUE.

F. OIL ISSUE - MIKE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE OIL PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. NOTHING THAT THERE WERE NO BASIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE US AND FRENCHOBJECTIVES, HE SAID CONSERVATION OF OIL WAS IMPERATIVE AS WELL AS AUTOMATIC DUE TO PRICE INCREASES. HOWEVER, CONSERVATION SHOULD NOT BE USED TO APPLY PRESSURE ON THE OIL-PRODUCERS. HE INDICATED HIS DESIRE FOR US UNDERSTANDING IN VIEW OF JAPAN'S HEAVY RELIANCE (70 PERCENT) ON MIDDLE EASTERN OIL.

2. DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ISSUEES -- MIKI SAID JAPAN WAS IN THE MIDST OF ITS WORST CRISIS SINCE WORLD WAR II, AND HE NEEDED EVERYONE'S COOPERATION. HE SAID SHOESMITH

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FEA-01 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01

CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 INT-05 OMB-01 SAM-01

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SAJ-01 CAB-05 DOTE-00 FAA-00 EUR-12 NEA-10 XMB-04

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OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 /155 W
---------- 051616
O P 131045Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6734
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY

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HE HAD TASKED DEPUTH PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA TO FORM A CABINET-LEVEL COUNCIL ON ECONOMICS TO SET FORTH BASIC POLICIES TO COPE WITH INFLATION, SIGNS OF RECESSION, AND OTHER URGENT PROBLEMS. MIKI SAID THAT HISGOVERN-MENT WOULD CONTINUE THE PRESENT POLICY OF RESTRICTING OVERALL DEMAND IN VIEW OF INFLATIONARY PRESSURES FROM ENERGY AND WAGE HIKES, ALTHOUGH PRICES ARE BEGINNING TO STABILIZE SOMEWHAT. HE SAID HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO BRING THAT ANNUAL INCREASE IN CONSUMER PRICES TO LESS THAN TEN PERCENT, BUT NOTED THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHIN A YEAR. MIKI ACKNOWLEGED PUBLIC CONCERN OVEREARLY BUT GROWING LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND BANKRUPCIES. TO ALLEVIATE THE UNCLASSIFIED

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CREDIT PINCH FACING SMALL AND MEDIUM FIRMS, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULDMAKE AVAILABLE 700 BILLION YEN IN FINANCING TO THEM TOWARD THE END OF THE YEAR, AND MORE IF NECESSARY. HE SAID HE WOULDSUBMIT A REVISION OF THE ANTI-TRUST ACT TO THE DIET CONVENING ON JANUARY20, 1975.

3. INTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS - MIKI SAID THAT TO REGAINTHE PEOPLE'S TRUST INTHE LDP, HE WOULD REVAMP THE PARTY PRESIDENTIAL ELECTRORAL SYSTEM, THE MECHANSIM FOR COLLECTING AND DISTRIBUTING POLITICAL FUNDS, AND THE ELECTRORAL SYSTEM ITSELF TO BRING DOWNCOSTS. MIKI SAID HE WOULD MAKE A FULL DISCLOSURE OF HIS PERSONAL FINANCES AS WELL AS THOSE OF HIS FACTION. HE BRUSHED ASIDE CORRUPTION CHARGES AGAINST HIS CABINET APPOINTEE KOMOTO (MITI), SAYING THAT THE LATTER HAD CUT HIS BUSINESS TIES TO AVOID CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST PROBLEMS. MIKI STRONGLY DEFENDED HIS APPOINTMENT OF A NON-DIETMAN, NAGAI (EDUCATION), ON THE GROUND THAT A MAN OF HIS BACKGROUND AND STATURE WAS NEEDED TO END THE MALAISE IN EDUCATION RESULTING FROM THE

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ADVERSARY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVENMENT AND THE TEACHING PROFESSION.

4. PRESS REACTION TO THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS GENERALLY NEGATIVE. ALL TOKYO DAILIES TOOK MIKI TO TASK FOR INDULGING IN HIS USUAL PRACTICES OF SETTING FORTH HIGH PRINCIPLES AND GENERALITIES, AND REFUSING TO DEAL INSPECIFICS. SANKEI, FOR EXAMPLE, SAID THAT DESPITE THE POINTED QUERIES ON INFLATION, SOCIAL JUSTICE, ETC., MIKI REFUSED TO SAY "ANYTHING THAT CAN BE CALLED POLICY." SEVERAL PAPERS NOTED THAT HE HAS YET TO DEMONSTRATE HIS CAPACITY FOR UNIFYING THE PARTY,CLEARING UP THE DARK RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MONEY AND POLITICS, AND COPING WITH THE URGENT POLICY ISSUES. MAINICHI NOTED WITH APPROVAL, IN AN OTHERWISE NEGATIVE APPARAISAL, MIKI'S ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CABINET-LEVEL ECONOMIC COUNCIL.
SHOESMITH

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# Message Attributes

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**Status:** NATIVE
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**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, MARR, JA, (MIKI, TAKEO)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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